

US-AEP Regional FY 2005 Work Plan

I. Regional Strategy

Background

Asia is home to some of the most rapidly developing economies in the world. In addition to economic opportunity, however, growth brings environmental challenges that affect the health and well-being of the region's citizens, particularly those living in urban industrialized areas. Urban environmental problems have already reached alarming proportions, and will only grow as increasing numbers of people migrate to the cities. Air and water pollution are particular challenges, as described below:

- Air in Asia is among the most polluted in the world. Of the 15 cities with the highest levels of particulate matter in the air, 12 are in Asia. In general, Asian cities have urban air pollution levels that are 2 to 5 times higher than international guidelines, and poor air quality is estimated to cause 1.5 million premature deaths each year.
- Motor vehicles are a growing source of air pollution in Asian cities. In New Delhi and Manila alone, the total number of cars on the roads is doubling every seven years.
- There are concerns about Asia's future contributions to greenhouse gas emissions. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the region is expected to replace OECD countries as the largest source of GHG emissions worldwide by 2015.
- In Asia, 40 percent of urban households are not served by clean piped water, 60 percent do not have access to basic sanitation, and 90 percent of sewage does not receive primary treatment. The resulting health impact is staggering, especially impacts on infants and children. Infant deaths in Asia due to polluted water and poor sanitation are estimated at 500,000 yearly.
- Inadequate sewerage systems and wastewater treatment facilities in Asian cities have resulted in river pollution levels four times higher than the global average.
- Environmental problems are not confined to national boundaries, as demonstrated by concerns over the transfer of hazardous wastes, problems of smoke caused by forest fires, and pollution of shared waterways, especially the Mekong River.

Governments in the countries in which US-AEP operates share common deficiencies when it comes to environmental stewardship: pollution standards are often overly ambitious, uniform, and inflexible; water, sanitation, and waste treatment are heavily subsidized; enforcement of environmental regulations is weak or non-existent; local governments are ill equipped to manage increasing responsibilities for many environmental functions; and judicial systems are underdeveloped. All these factors, combined with the lack of mechanisms for public input, result in the failure of environmental institutions to hold the government and commercial interests accountable for poor environmental performance.

Moreover, governments have neither adequate monetary nor human resources to adequately address these problems. Funding for the environment in Asia was drastically slashed at the onset of the 1997 financial crisis and has never recovered. Vietnam spends only about 0.1 to 0.3 percent of GDP, and Indonesia and the Philippines 0.5 to 0.7 percent, on the environment. India's expenditure is also well below 1 percent of GDP. Thailand, however, invests about 1 percent of GDP on the environment.

One positive development is the growing role of civil society and increasing acceptance that higher rates of economic growth alone cannot clean up the environment. Good policies and institutions, multi-stakeholder capacity, and public-private partnerships are also needed for environmental stewardship.

Regional Strategy

By taking advantage of its regional perspective, US-AEP will promote regional cooperation on environmental issues, maximize the impact of program activities, and maximize resources. US-AEP is based on the concept that Asia's environmental problems can best be solved through partnerships and a collaborative approach. All the US-AEP countries struggle with the dual challenges of promoting economic growth while trying to minimize the negative environmental impacts of that growth. Since ideas that work well in one country are often suitable for other countries in the region, US-AEP is able to multiply the impact of its efforts by sharing lessons learned and successes among its individual country programs. At the same time, regional commonalities offer the opportunity to leverage US-AEP program resources at the regional level in a way that enhances the resource efficiency of the overall program and supports individual country programs.

US-AEP's regional approach adds value to both the overall program and the individual countries by achieving the following:

- Promote regional dialogue and cooperation
- Maximize program resources
- Mobilize other resources

Promote Regional Dialogue and Cooperation

A key component of US-AEP's regional program will be facilitating regional dialogue on environmental issues of common concern. This networking activity may be implemented in a number of different ways:

Promoting the Sharing of Best Practices and Lessons Learned: The commitment to strengthen reform efforts in ongoing bilateral environmental management activities can be reinforced with more regional collaboration. A number of activities of the USAID bilateral programs have replication potential in other countries. Programs aimed at reducing vehicle emissions, initiatives to improve water supply management, and projects to promote participation of civil society in environmental decision making, for example, have been extremely valuable, yet to date are largely implemented on a country by country basis. Each has the potential to evolve into a regional activity.

Encouraging Asian Countries to Take a Leadership Role in Hosting and Implementing Platform Activities: US-AEP will continue to look for opportunities to establish strategic counterpart linkages between US-AEP countries. For example, the Philippines is developing vigorous programs to bring civil society into issues of environmental governance, and Thailand has recently undertaken a major reorganization of its environmental establishment. Their locally developed approaches can benefit other countries. US-AEP's regional activities will seek to assist countries to establish centers of excellence and take the lead in promoting networking in the region.

Creating or Strengthening Networks that Promote Dialogue: Together with its regional, international, and U.S. partners, US-AEP will develop and support networks that share US-AEP objectives and add value to US-AEP project activities. The long-term objective of such forums is to help create sustainable Asian networks that facilitate information sharing, foster innovation, and support institutional development around environmental management issues. Where appropriate networks are already in place, US-AEP will work in cooperation with network organizers to participate in and support dialogue through these existing organizations. Such regional organizations may include the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) and the Southeast Asia Water Utilities Network (SEAWUN).

Strengthening Capacity for a Collaborative Approach: Many Asian countries lack the capacity to collaborate effectively with neighboring countries in solving transboundary environmental problems. US-AEP will offer training in the tools necessary for effective collaboration – consensus-based decision making, conflict mitigation, participatory planning and development, and community-based environmental management.

Maximize Program Resources

A second key component for US-AEP's regional program is providing centralized resources that help country programs leverage their scarce resources, through sharing of technical experts and support services. The US-AEP regional program offers the following centralized services to the field:

Providing Access to Technical Experts for Project Activities: Through several of its acquisition and assistance instruments, the US-AEP Regional Office will provide access to a centralized pool of technical experts on a variety of specific environmental topics on an as needed basis. This technical resource pool allows country programs to quickly access expertise when it is needed, and without the time and funding burden required to hire an outside expert.

Organizing regional workshops: To maximize resource efficiency, US-AEP will organize regional workshops and training activities that avoid the costs of separate in-country events. The one-time costs of experts from the United States and other countries can be distributed across multiple countries.

Providing Support for Project Planning, Reporting, and Communications: The US-AEP Regional Office will provide assistance to the field in operational areas such as performance reporting and communications through the program's acquisition and assistance instruments. In addition, technical experts are available to provide input for project planning and workplan development.

Mobilize Other Resources

Leveraging Resources through Collaboration with Donor Partners: Many US-AEP regional activities address concerns shared by a wide range of stakeholders and other donors. Consequently, US-AEP will seek to collaborate with other donor partners and mobilize additional resources. There are a number of examples where US-AEP has worked profitably with other interested partners on major regional initiatives, such as the Asian Development Bank, CAI-Asia, and the World Bank.

Facilitating Access to Other USAID Programs: US-AEP's regional program will help the field offices to keep informed of related USAID programs with which they might collaborate to better leverage their resources and to contribute to broader agency development goals. These include the Presidential Initiatives, EGAT's urban programs, the Global Development Alliance, and the Development Credit Authority.

Overview of FY 2005 Regional Activities

US-AEP will support six regional activities in FY 2005 that contribute to the program's overall strategic objective – Cleaner Cities in Asia. As described below, each of the projects addresses one of two principal Intermediate Results – Improved public policy and environmental regulations or improved urban environmental management.¹ A new strategy and Strategic Objective for US-AEP will be designed in early FY 2005 and introduced in FY 2006. Thus, in addition to this work plan, a transition plan will be prepared to transfer US-AEP's successes and partnerships to the new strategy, wherever appropriate. During this transition year, US-AEP will aim to complete or sustain existing activities and capture best practices and lessons learned.

¹ No regional activities in FY05 will address IRs 3 & 4.

Intermediate Result 1 - Improved public policy and environmental regulations

US-AEP will promote a regional dialogue between Asian nations that face similar problems in governance, enforcement, and decentralization through three projects:

- Project 1: Asian Regional Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network
- Project 2: Environmental Governance and Consensus Building in the Mekong
- Project 3: Support to ASEAN's Environmentally Sustainable Cities Program

Strengthening compliance and enforcement is a top priority in Asia. In 2005, US-AEP and other donors will begin to operationalize a regional environmental compliance and enforcement network (Project 1) dedicated to linking key Asian and U.S. officials and practitioners. Building on on-going US-AEP enforcement activities in individual countries, and the experience of other similar networks, this regional effort will establish a platform for practitioners to share experience and information.

Transboundary environmental conflict remains a challenge in the Mekong River basin. Building on an action plan for transboundary cooperation that includes representatives from China, in 2005 US-AEP will continue to work with the Mekong River Commission (MRC) to provide targeted technical assistance and training to Mekong countries in consensus building and conflict management (Project 2). In the process, US-AEP will support the MRC in expanding regional linkages among Mekong countries to enable more effective management of transboundary challenges.

In 2005 US-AEP will engage with a new partner in supporting ASEAN's Framework for Environmentally Sustainable Cities program. (Project 3) US-AEP will support three thematic workshops on the topics of clean land, clean water and clean air to assist national environmental leaders and municipal officials from 23 participating ASEAN cities develop municipal master plans and action programs to implement the Framework.

Intermediate Result 2 - Improved urban environmental management

As a growing number of Asian countries decentralize political, administrative, and fiscal responsibilities to the local level, there is a need to strengthen the capacity of local government officials and environmental professionals to manage these responsibilities in an effective, transparent, and accountable manner. Thus, US-AEP will promote and strengthen networks, organizations, and institutions that facilitate regional sharing around local environmental management. In 2005, US-AEP will continue to support such networks.

- Project 4: Support for the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities
- Project 5: Strengthening of SEAWUN
- Project 6: Documenting US-AEP Lessons Learned

US-AEP will continue its long-standing support to the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (Project 4). With significant support from US-AEP, CAI-Asia serves an important role in the region in promoting and demonstrating innovative ways to improve the air quality of Asian cities through partnerships and sharing experiences. US-AEP will continue to support the CAI-Asia's main capacity-building program – the Clean Air Training Network for Asia (CATNet-Asia) led by the US Environmental Protection Agency – and will support CAI-Asia events and pilot projects in the region. US-AEP will also support sharing of experiences and successful models of public awareness campaigns focusing on the health effects of air pollution as a complement to current CAI-Asia programs.

US-AEP will continue its support to the Southeast Asia Water Utilities Network (SEAWUN) in cooperation with the ADB by providing targeted technical assistance and training in promoting full-cost recovery (FCR) among member utilities (Project5).

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Finally, as FY 2005 is the final year of the current Strategic Objective, regional resources will support the process of documenting lessons learned through US-AEP activities in key areas of urban environmental management (for example, air and water quality, governance, industrial management, etc.). Experts in key fields will help analyze US-AEP activities in order to identify and highlight successes and effective approaches that could be useful for partners and other practitioners in urban environmental management (Project 6).

Project Summary Table

Project	Project Purpose
Asian Regional Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network	To share best practices on compliance and enforcement through a regional network dedicated to linking Asian officials and practitioners.
Environmental Governance and Consensus Building in the Mekong	To strengthen the capabilities and capacity of MRC member countries to resolve transboundary environmental and development conflicts to ensure sustainable development in the Mekong watershed.
Support to ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities Program	To promote best practices in clean water, land and air management practices among participating ASEAN cities
Support to the Clean Air Initiative	To promote and demonstrate innovative ways to improve the air quality of Asian cities through partnerships and sharing experiences.
Promoting Full-Cost Recovery among SEAWUN Members	To promote improved cost recovery among SEAWUN member country utilities through specialized training and counterpart exchange
Documenting US-AEP Lessons Learned	To document and disseminate lessons learned through US-AEP activities.

II. Activities

Activity 1: Asian Regional Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network

Primary Program Area:	IR 1: Improved Environmental Policy and Governance
Asian partners:	Thailand Pollution Control Department; Philippine Environmental Management Bureau; India Central Pollution Control Board. Indonesia Ministry of Environment; Vietnam Environmental Protection Agency; Sri Lanka Ministry of Environment
International partners:	EPA; ADB; OECD World Bank; INECE and other networks
Purpose:	To share best practices on compliance and enforcement through a regional network dedicated to linking Asian officials and practitioners.

Description: While Asian economies have made considerable progress establishing environmental regulatory systems, much work remains in strengthening environmental enforcement, due to legal, institutional and capacity limitations. In particular, governments face continuing challenges in reducing overlapping authorities, decentralizing environmental functions, training core staff, raising awareness of the regulated community, attracting necessary funds and reducing opportunities for corruption.

Practitioner networks have proved successful mechanisms for agency officials and other stakeholders to exchange information and experience on effective environmental enforcement policies and practices (e.g., www.inece.org). Mutual cooperation through networks can also provide a useful foundation for addressing common challenges, including transboundary pollution.

In FY 2004, US-AEP pilot tested a regional environmental compliance and enforcement network dedicated to linking key Asian and U.S. officials and practitioners. Activities included country-based assessments, demonstration projects and a regional forum. In addition to presenting program assessments for three countries and results of demonstration projects, one outcome of the forum was the development of priorities for launching the network that addresses the network mission, institutional structure, activities and resources. Network partners also joined this regional workshop to share their experiences.

In FY 2005, US-AEP will collaborate with donors (ADB, World Bank, OECD) on a series of activities that may include: (1) new pilot activities in select countries; (2) one new program assessment in Vietnam (with ADB funding); and (3) regional workshop in Manila to establish network and develop county-specific indicators.

Inputs:

- PADCO: Program costs for technical assistance and forum implementation
- EPA: Travel expenses for one enforcement expert
- EPSG: Travel expenses for regional participants and speakers to network activities

Expected Outputs and Results:

- Establishment of new regional network with organization structure and sustainability commitments from agencies and donors (FY2005)
- Adoption of country-based enforcement indicators for use in tracking program progress – participation in network dependent on commitment to adopt program indicators (FY2005)
- One new country program assessment (pending funding from ADB Governance Fund) and two demonstration projects that advance new policies (FY2005)

Activity 2: Environmental Governance and Consensus Building in Mekong

Primary Program Area:	IR1: Improved Environmental Policy and Governance
Asian partners:	Mekong River Commission and National Mekong Committees
International partners:	ADB
Purpose:	To strengthen the capabilities and capacity of MRC member countries to resolve transboundary environmental and development conflicts to ensure sustainable development in the Mekong watershed.

Description. Mekong River countries are actively constructing dams, and irrigation and navigation waterways, which have a significant impact on the environment and river livelihoods. The challenge for Mekong River countries is to adopt policies and practices that enable collaborative engagement on planning and development that both protect vital ecosystems and promote prosperity.

The Mekong River Commission (MRC), an inter-governmental organization, fosters cooperation among the four lower Mekong countries (Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam) by promoting sustainable development. With the support of US-AEP, in FY 2003 the MRC initiated a partnership between the Mekong and Mississippi River agencies and organizations to facilitate dialogue and share best practices on participatory planning, inter-jurisdictional challenges, and large river management. In FY 2004, US-AEP worked with the MRC to provide targeted technical assistance and training to Mekong countries in community participation, public participation, and consensus building and conflict management. MRC country participants joined conflict resolution training programs in Thailand, and also community-based environmental management programming in Vietnam.

In FY 2005, US-AEP, MRC, Thailand National Mekong Committee (TNMC) and ADB Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) will co-organize a workshop for senior Mekong country officials and China to develop an action agenda for cooperation on resolving transboundary environmental disputes. At this workshop, Mekong countries will establish linkages with counterparts from other major river systems (e.g., Danube and Mississippi).

As a follow up to action plan implementation, US-AEP will work with MRC to establish a transboundary conflict prevention and resolution program component within the MRC that would designate key Mekong country officials and experts to cooperate on resolving transboundary conflicts. To build capacity of this group, US-AEP will develop and deliver training program on key strategies and tools for resolving transboundary conflict prevention.

Inputs:

- PADCO: Technical assistance, training and program coordination support
- EPSG: Exchange funds for overseas experts

Expected Outputs and Results:

- Adoption of Mekong action plan on strategies for sharing lessons learned and best practices on transboundary environmental conflict management (FY 05)
- Designation of officials from each country to be responsible for responding to transboundary conflicts between Mekong countries and China (FY 06)
- Key officials and other practitioners trained on consensus-building and community participation aimed at resolving existing conflicts and disputes (FY 06)

Activity 3: Support to ASEAN's Environmentally Sustainable Cities Program

Primary Program Area:	IR 1: Improved Environmental Policy and Governance
Asian partners:	ASEAN, Singapore National Environmental Agency
International partners:	The U.S. Council of State Governments (CSG)
Purpose:	To promote best practices in clean water, land and air management practices among participating ASEAN cities

Description. In December 2003, ASEAN member governments adopted a Framework for Environmentally Sustainable Cities organized by the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGES). The Framework provides a strategy for ASEAN members to deal with current and future problems that result from the rapid urbanization affecting most of Southeast Asia.

Under the Framework, Singapore will host thematic workshops in 2005 on the topics of clean land, clean water and clean air during the second, third and fourth quarters respectively. Each three-day workshop aims to assist national environmental leaders and municipal officials from 23 participating ASEAN cities develop municipal master plans and action programs to implement the Environmentally Sustainable Cities Framework.

To support this initiative, US-AEP will work with the National Environmental Agency in Singapore to arrange three international workshops that will provide capacity building, the sharing of best practices and selected demonstration activities in the three thematic areas.

Specifically, the ASEAN framework objectives for Clean Water seek to achieve:

- The technical and institutional framework to supply accessible water that meets drinking water standards.
- Water pollution prevention and control at industrial and domestic sources.
- Sustainable supply and use of water through fair pricing, conservation and efficiency, and public responsibility.
- Increased awareness and collaboration among all stakeholders.

The ASEAN framework objectives for Clean Land seek to achieve:

- A solid waste management and disposal system that safeguards public health.
- A toxic and hazardous waste management, minimization and disposal system to safeguard public health.
- Reduction in waste generation and disposal.
- Green spaces in cities.
- Enhanced public environmental responsibility and ownership for waste minimization, recycling and recycled products.
- Public/private partnerships to build capacity for waste minimization and recycling.

The ASEAN framework objectives for Clean Air seek to achieve:

- Emissions control for both stationary and mobile sources.
- Increased use of cleaner fuels and best available environmental technologies.
- Increased functional partnerships amongst government, private and people sectors as well as international agencies.

US-AEP will support the workshops via three grants of up to \$100,000 distributed through the Council of State Government's State Environmental Initiative. The grants will be used to provide technical assistance and follow-up support for the three thematic workshops.

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Inputs:

CSG: Technical assistance, training and program coordination support

Outputs:

3 ASEAN workshops undertaken for sharing lessons learned and best practices on clean land, air and water (FY 05)

Expected Results:

- Cooperation and sharing of best practices increased among ASEAN cities, and between ASEAN and U.S. partners.
- ASEAN city officials and representatives adopt improved policies and practices for urban environmental management (FY 06)

Activity 4: Support to Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities

Primary Program Area:	IR 1: Improved Environmental Policy and Governance IR2: Improved Urban Environmental Management
Asian partners:	Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) and CAI-Asia partners, including the ADB and World Bank; Community Led Environmental Awareness Network - CLEAN (Sri Lanka); Centre for Science and the Environment (India)
International partners:	US Environmental Protection Agency
Purpose:	To help promote and demonstrate innovative ways to improve the air quality of Asian cities and communities through partnerships, education and sharing of best practices and experiences.

Description: In recent years US-AEP has supported regional air quality management activities through direct assistance to the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) as well as through complementary activities in individual countries. In 2005 US-AEP will strengthen and broaden this strategic engagement with CAI-Asia.

In FY05 US-AEP will:

fund participants from all six US-AEP countries to attend Better Air Quality Conference (BAQ) 2004 in Agra in December, including a side event specifically for US-AEP-funded partners;
support the Clean Air Training Network-Asia (CATNet-Asia) through the USEPA;
provide in-country support for local air quality management networks and provide facilitation for specific CAI-Asia funded projects;
support experience sharing and disseminating lessons learned from communications campaigns in the region related to public awareness and air quality.

This regional support will strengthen US-AEP country-level programs that complement the objectives of CAI-Asia, including programs in Vietnam, Indonesia and Sri Lanka to tighten vehicle emission and fuel standards, a training program in India to develop a science-based urban air pollution control model strategy for the city of Pune, a tricycle emissions reduction initiative in the Philippines, and a project in Sri Lanka that involves schoolchildren and communities in monitoring air pollution.

More specifically at the regional level, US-AEP will support CAI-Asia's objectives through the following four activity components:

Better Air Quality Conference: US-AEP regional and country funds will be used to help US-AEP countries send participants to the 2004 annual BAQ Conference in Agra, India. BAQ is the largest conference on air quality management in Asia and brings together experts from all over the world to provide the latest information about air pollution from mobile and stationary sources, and the available strategies to reduce them. It is anticipated that about 50 participants will be supported by US-AEP to attend BAQ, including NGO, government and media representatives and several keynote speakers. A survey will be conducted late in FY2005 to assess the impact of the information and networking gained at BAQ.

CATNet-Asia: In 2004, CATNet-Asia, with significant EPA support, acted as the umbrella for capacity building activities in CAI-Asia. Training courses developed and pilot tested in FY04 will be disseminated among interested training institutions across Asia in FY05, and an additional training course will be developed and pilot tested. CATNET-Asia will offer the first full training courses on air quality monitoring and exposure assessment.

Local Air Quality Management Networks: US-AEP/Vietnam and US-AEP/Sri Lanka will act as the coordinators of the CAI-Asia networks in their respective countries. US-AEP will help provide exchange funds or short-term technical assistance to support these networks as needed. US-AEP will

also facilitate specific CAI-Asia funded projects; such as the Public Health and Air Pollution in Asia (PAPA) project, and a pilot project on poverty and air pollution in Ho Chi Minh city. Discussions later in the year with the CAI-Asia network coordinators will provide the basis for assessing the impact and sustainability of these networks.

Sharing of Experiences and Best Practices from Communication Campaigns for Improving Air Quality: Public pressure is a key driver in assuring that governments and industries comply with their responsibilities. In FY04 US-AEP developed or strengthened programs in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines which use communications campaigns to raise public awareness of the adverse health impacts of air pollution, and mobilize stakeholders to take action to improve air quality.² Given the interest in the region for communication campaigns of this type, and suggestions from experts on the how US-AEP can most effectively support on-going CAI-Asia activities, US-AEP will promote the sharing of lessons learned from successful communication campaigns through a BAQ 2004 side event workshop. Results, lessons learned and strategies for successful campaigns will be shared among participants. In addition to sharing experiences from these existing programs, an expert on communication strategies and air pollution will help facilitate and provide advice on mobilizing public support for reducing air pollution. A survey will be conducted late in FY2005 to assess the impact of the workshop on communications programs implemented by participants.

Implementing Activity:

- Training of Key Air Quality Management specialists. This will be accomplished through:
- Training support to CATnet
- Development and pilot testing new CATnet training course
- Sharing information and facilitating networking amongst regional members and organizations. This will be accomplished through:
- Support for participants to attend BAQ
- Facilitating establishment of local air quality management networks (US-AEP staff assistance as CAI-Asia network coordinators in Sri Lanka and Vietnam).
- Conducting a workshop for sharing of experiences and discussion of effective communication campaigns for improved air quality (at BAQ).

Inputs:

- EPSG: Support for participation in BAQ, including participants to the public awareness campaigns workshop
- EPA: Support for CATNet-Asia

Outputs:

- CAT-Net training courses disseminated (FY2005).
- Knowledge of air quality management strategies disseminated to BAQ participants (FY2005)
- Workshop on communications strategies for improved air quality conducted (FY2005)

Expected Results:

- Air quality management capacity and networking increased amongst BAQ participants based on survey results. (FY2005)

² In Indonesia US-AEP has partnered with local NGOs and Swisscontact to implement a public awareness campaign on the adverse health effects of lead exposure as a result of leaded gasoline. In Sri Lanka US-AEP was instrumental in establishing a new NGO in Sri Lanka, the Community Led Environmental Awareness Network (CLEAN), which is working with 10 schools in the Colombo area to educate schoolchildren about air pollution through their participation in air quality monitoring, and dissemination of the monitoring results on large public boards. In the Philippines US-AEP is working with the Environmental Broadcasters Circle (EBC) and the Partnership for Clean Air (PCA) to develop a media campaign to increase public knowledge of the adverse health effects of vehicular emissions and actions that can be taken. This includes a campaign to publicize findings from the ADB health impacts study and the Integrated Environmental Strategies (IES) reports.

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- Strategies for effective communications campaigns disseminated and existing or new campaigns improved based on survey results (FY2005)
- Improved national coordination and management of air quality within countries with AQM networks - based on assessments of US-AEP in-country staff (FY2005)

Activity 5: Promoting Full-Cost Recovery among SEAWUN Members

Primary Program Area:	IR2: Improved Urban Environmental Management
Asian partners:	SEAWUN Secretariat; SEAWUN member country associations
International partners:	ADB, World Bank
Purpose:	Promote improved cost recovery among SEAWUN member country utilities through specialized training and counterpart exchange

Description: Established in 2002 with assistance of US-AEP and the ADB, Southeast Asia Water Utilities Network (SEAWUN) is a regional network dedicated to helping its member utilities upgrade their quality of services. SEAWUN works to promote membership by delivering programs in: human resources development, benchmarking, full cost recovery, and unaccounted-for water. In 2003 and 2004, US-AEP provided assistance in training and certification.

In FY 2004, US-AEP also worked with SEAWUN to: (1) conduct a full cost recovery (FCR) surveys for three model utilities in five SEAWUN member countries; and (2) complete a comparative assess of effective FCR practices. In FY 2005, US-AEP and SEAWUN will organize a regional workshop in Bangkok that builds on the outputs of FY 2004 to set an action agenda that reflects key FCR findings and common factors from the study, and sets priorities for member SEAWUN countries in addressing FCR. This program will also initiate linkages among utilities in the region.

Following the workshop, US-AEP will continue to strengthen capabilities in FCR through targeted technical assistance and training to implement the FCR action plan, including organizing a workshop at the SEAWUN convention in Hanoi in March. US-AEP and SEAWUN will also work to identify strategies for information exchange between Asian utilities and between Asian and U.S. utilities, which could include “twinning” arrangements. Based on the outcomes of the December workshop and priority strategies for exchanging best practices, Water for People could assist in identifying potential twinning arrangements with U.S. utilities. While one focus for sharing best practices might be strategies for optimizing water tariffs, other factors could include revenue improvement activities, such as meter repair and replacement, improvements in billing and collection, and expansion of connections and cost cutting measures such as reducing power and chemical costs.

Inputs:

- PADCO: Technical assistance, training and coordination support
- EPSG: Exchanges for participation SEAWUN member utilities in

Expected Outputs and Results:

Development and implementation of action plan by SEAWUN for strengthening FCR (FY 05)
Improved FCR in “twinning” utilities through dissemination and adoption of FCR best practices among SEAWUN country utilities (FY 06)

Activity 6: Documenting US-AEP Lessons Learned

Primary Program Area:	IR2: Improved Urban Environmental Management
Asian partners:	Various local partners
International partners:	US-AEP implementing partners
Purpose:	To help guide future US-AEP efforts and other international cooperative environmental management activities by documenting and disseminating lessons learned from US-AEP activities.

Description: Under the current Strategic Objective (SO), US-AEP has implemented a variety of innovative partnership projects around the region to “promote a clean revolution in Asia.” In FY 2005 initiatives in India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Vietnam will continue to address pressing urban, industrial and environmental policy challenges. However, the current SO and Intermediate Results (IRs) will be closed out in FY 2005 in preparation for a new strategic focus in FY 2006. As part of this close-out, it is important to document what has been accomplished and learned, particularly over the past 5 years (FY 2001-FY 2005). The experiences and understanding gained from US-AEP’s work, particularly related to the development and use of partnerships in facing environmental challenges in Asia, will inform future US-AEP activities and may also be useful to US-AEP partners and other interested parties. These “lessons learned” will be documented to highlight successful and especially innovative approaches with supporting case study examples and could be developed along specific themes such as environmental governance, urban environmental management, and industrial environmental management.

Implementation Activity 1: Collecting and identifying lessons learned

TSSC will initiate information collection at the country level. In consultation with US-AEP Country Managers and implementing partners, TSSC staff will collect information on lessons learned over the life of the current SO. After information is collected, the TSSC will work with US-AEP staff, partners and experts in key sectors (such as water and air quality management, environmental governance, solid and hazardous waste management) to critically analyze the information, and identify themes, common approaches, and potential lessons learned. After this initial review, a set of 10-15 lessons learned and supporting case studies will be proposed. To gain consensus, the proposed key lessons learned will be distributed for review and comment by Country Managers and the Regional Coordinator, representatives of select partner organizations, and discussed at a regional workshop.

Implementation Activity 2: Disseminating lessons learned

Once a consensus is reached regarding the key lessons learned, decisions about dissemination will be made in consultation with Country Managers and the Regional Coordinator. The nature of the lessons learned will help determine the dissemination method(s). Options include dissemination at regional environmental conferences, at a regional dissemination workshop organized by US-AEP and/or in a series of booklets for wider distribution.

Inputs:

- STTA: Technical assistance for researching, analyzing and documenting lessons learned and accompanying case studies
- TSSC Grant: Grant to assist with preparation and dissemination of lessons learned
- EPSG: Support for participation in dissemination events and/or US-AEP lessons learned workshop(s)

Outputs:

- Documentation of lessons learned through US-AEP activities over the past 4-5 years (FY2005)

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- Dissemination of lessons learned among US-AEP partners and relevant stakeholders (FY2005)

Expected Results:

- Requirements met for Strategic Objective close-out.
- Adoption/incorporation of US-AEP lessons learned into new or existing environmental programs in the region (FY 2006)